PATENT

Section III: REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the changes as noted above in Section I be made to the present application.

In the above-referenced Office Action, which was mailed on 10/19/2004, it was requested that the text of the "Applications" paragraph be updated with current information. By this amendment, a new "Applications" paragraph has been inserted which lists the application numbers and filing dates for the referenced copending applications thereby satisfying the noted request.

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite with regard to the use of the terms "first input", "second input" and "switching means". As herein amended, the referenced terms have been clarified as suggested. The first and second inputs refer to the synchronized and unsynchronized inputs as is clearly described in the specification. The user is enabled to switch back and forth between a first input which provides information in synchronism with the event being presented such as on a television or radio or as a customer at a baseball game, and a second input which provides information from a website which is not synchronized to the event being presented. Claims 1-19 are now believed to be allowable under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Next, it was requested that in future correspondence, the lines of the claims be numbered. In view of the limited number of lines in each numbered claim, applicant believes that the numbering of the lines of the claims in addition to the numbering of the claims themselves is duplicative and unnecessary and would obfuscate the presentation of the claims. Applicant therefore requests reconsideration of the line numbering requirement.

Page 8 of 11

PATENT

Next, claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cho et al, (U.S. Patent 6,654,826, hereinafter referred to as "Cho"). Those rejections are respectfully traversed. However, in order to further the prosecution of the present application, and without waiving any of applicant's rights to argue the allowability of the originally presented claims in a subsequent appeal or other proceeding in the event that the Examiner does not concur that the present amendment places the application in condition for allowance, applicant has herein amended the claims for clarification purposes to place them in better condition for allowance or appeal.

The present invention provides a processing methodology and system for a user who is watching or listening to an event such as a baseball game, either in person at a stadium or on a television screen or radio device for example, to obtain additional information through a second medium which is either synchronized with the event, i.e. background information on actions currently taking place in the baseball game, or unsynchronized with the event, i.e. background statistics which may be requested by a user and which are not necessary related to actions currently taking place in the baseball game. The IM units are equipped with a display function to enable information related to the first and second inputs to be displayed on the IM units.

The Cho reference discloses a docking system for a portable computer with a bus sharing structure between the computer and the docking station. There is no disclosure, teaching or even suggestion of an enablement for receiving a synchronized datastream input relative to an event being presented to a user, as well as an unsynchronized input, to an information management

Page 9 of 11

PATENT

(IM) unit as those terms are described in applicant's specification. Moreover, there is no suggestion in Cho for enabling a display of information related to the synchronized and unsynchronized inputs to the IM unit and there is nothing disclosed in Cho that would correspond to the presentation in a separate medium of an event to a user of the IM unit. Cho is totally unable to perform the recited functions and there is not even a suggestion anywhere in the Cho reference for the combination of elements and relationships among those elements as is clearly presented in the applicant's claims as herein amended.

In order to even further clarify the differences between applicant's invention and the Cho reference, all of the independent claims currently under consideration, i.e. independent claims 1, 10 and 19, have herein been amended to more clearly recite the ability of the IM unit to display information related to the first and second inputs and to switch between a first synchronized input which is synchronized relative to an event being presented to a user and a second input which is unsynchronized relative to the event being presented to the user. As noted above, it is believed that the Cho reference does not disclose or suggest the total combination as is now set forth in the currently amended independent claims, 1, 10 and 19. Therefore amended claims 1, 10 and 19 are submitted to be allowable under 35 USC 103(a) over Cho. Moreover, since claims 2-9 and 11-18 ultimately depend from either claim 1 or claim 10, respectively, and include all of the limitations of claim 1 or claim 10 as well as even further limitations as set forth in the individual dependent claims, it is submitted that claims 2-9 and 11-18 are also allowable under 35 USC 103(a) over Cho.

Thus, it is submitted that claims 1-19, as herein presented, are believed to be in condition for allowance, an early notice of

Page 10 of 11

PATENT

which is hereby requested. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting the allowance of this application, and especially if one or more new references are cited, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below, prior to the issuance of another Office Action, in order to allow the applicant the opportunity to further amend the claims by Supplemental Amendment or Examiner's Amendment, as may be appropriate, to place the claims in condition for allowance. The Examiner's attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert V. Wilder

Robert V. Wilder (Tel: 512-246-8555) Registration No. 26,352 Attorney for Applicants 4235 Kingsburg Drive Round Rock, Texas 78681